

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 6, 11, 12 and 21, as indicated below.

1. (Currently amended) A method for automatically generating purchase orders in a computer implemented procurement system, comprising:

accessing a user modifiable configuration file comprising a selected list of criteria on which line items are to be sorted into purchase orders;

modifying the selected list of criteria in response to user input;

traversing a list of line items associated with a requisition, each line item comprising an item description and criteria data, and automatically grouping said line items of said list into purchase orders wherein all items of a given purchase order have matching criteria data with respect to any criteria of said modified list of criteria;

storing results of said grouping into a line group data structure that is mapped to said requisition, wherein the line group data structure indicates one or more groups of one or more line items according to the results of said grouping; and

generating separate purchase orders according to said line group data structure.

2. (Original) A method as described in Claim 1 further comprising an order header data structure which provides a mapping between said requisition and said line group data structure.

3. (Original) A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said requisition is represented via an electronic shopping cart.

4. (Original) A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said line group data structure comprises a host purchase order item which includes all of said line items of said requisition.

5. (Previously presented) A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said modified list of criteria is selected from the group comprising: supplier name; billed_to location; send_to location; and currency.

6. (Currently amended) A method as described in Claim 1 further comprising generating said requisition by performing electronic commerce to add items to said requisition which generates said list of line items.

7. (Original) A method as described in Claim 1 further comprising approving said separate purchase orders.

8. (Original) A method as described in Claim 1 further comprising:

performing modifications to said list of line items to generate a new list of line items; and

automatically re-grouping said new list of line items into new purchase orders in response to said modifications.

9. (Original) A method as described in Claim 1 further comprising sending a purchase order in an outbound route to a supplier via an Internet network.

10. (Previously presented) A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said modifying comprises allowing a user to modify said user modifiable configuration file to alter said selected list of criteria.

11. (Currently amended) A system, comprising a bus coupled to a processor and a memory coupled to said bus, said memory comprising instructions that when executed implement a method for automatically generating purchase orders in a computer procurement system, said method comprising:

accessing a user modifiable configuration file comprising a selected list of criteria on which line items are to be sorted into purchase orders;

modifying the selected list of criteria in response to user input;

traversing a list of line items associated with a requisition, each line item comprising an item description and criteria data, and automatically grouping said line items of said list into purchase orders wherein all items of a given purchase order have matching criteria data with respect to any criteria of said modified list of criteria;

storing results of said grouping into a line group data structure that is mapped to said requisition, wherein the line group data structure indicates one or more groups of one or more line items according to the results of said grouping; and

generating separate purchase orders according to said line group data structure.

12. (Currently amended) A system as described in Claim 11 further comprising an order header data structure which provides a mapping between said requisition and said line group data structure.

13. (Original) A system as described in Claim 11 wherein said requisition is represented via an electronic shopping cart.

14. (Original) A system as described in Claim 11 wherein said line group data

structure comprises a host purchase order item which includes all of said line items of said requisition.

15. (Previously presented) A system as described in Claim 11 wherein said modified list of criteria is selected from the group comprising: supplier name; bill-to location; ship-to location; and currency.

16. (Original) A system as described in Claim 11 wherein said method further comprises generating said requisition by performing electronic commerce to add items to said requisition which generates said list of line items.

17. (Original) A system as described in Claim 11 wherein said method further comprises approving said separate purchase orders.

18. (Original) A system as described in Claim 11 wherein said method further comprises:

performing modifications to said list of line items to generate a new list of line items; and

automatically re-grouping said new list of line items into new purchase orders in response to said modifications.

19. (Original) A system as described in Claim 11 wherein said method further comprises sending a purchase order in an outbound route to a supplier via an Internet network.

20. (Previously presented) A system as described in Claim 11 wherein said modifying comprises allowing a user to modify said user modifiable configuration file to alter said selected list of criteria.

21. (Currently amended) A method for automatically generating purchase orders in a computer implemented procurement system, comprising:

accessing a user modifiable configuration file comprising a selected list of criteria on which line items are to be sorted into purchase orders;

allowing a user to perform electronic commerce to establish an electronic shopping cart associated with a requisition, said electronic shopping cart comprising a list of line items wherein each line item comprises an item description and criteria data;

modifying the selected list of criteria in response to user input;

automatically grouping said line items of said list into purchase orders wherein all items of a given purchase order have matching criteria data with respect to any criteria of said modified list of criteria;

storing results of said grouping into a line group data structure that is mapped to said requisition via an order header data structure, wherein the line group data structure indicates one or more groups of one or more line items according to the results of said grouping; and

generating separate purchase orders according to said line group data structure.

22. (Original) A method as described in Claim 21 wherein said line group data structure comprises a host purchase order item which includes all of said line items of said requisition.

23. (Previously presented) A method as described in Claim 21 wherein said modified list of criteria is selected from the group comprising: supplier name; bill-to location; ship-to location; and currency.

24. (Original) A method as described in Claim 21 further comprising approving said separate purchase orders.

25. (Original) A method as described in Claim 21 further comprising:

performing further electronic commerce to modify said list of line items and generating a new list of line items;

automatically re-grouping said new list of line items into new purchase orders in response to said modifications; and

updating said line group data structure.

26. (Original) A method as described in Claim 21 further comprising sending a purchase order in an outbound route to a supplier via an Internet network.

27. (Previously presented) A method as described in Claim 21 wherein said modifying comprises allowing a user to modify said user modifiable configuration file to alter said selected list of criteria.